

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. Cancelled.
2. (Previously presented) Mixer according to Claim 15, wherein said guide plate deposition surface takes up approximately 20% to approximately 40%, preferably approximately 30%, of the angular range around the rotating axis.
3. (Currently amended) Mixer according to Claim 2, wherein the radial distance of a radially the outer boundary of said a guide plate deposition surface to said rotation and axis is essentially the same over the length of the said guide plate boundary in the direction of mixing screw rotation of said mixing screw.
4. (Currently amended) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein said guide plate ~~the~~ deposition surface comprises a greater width in the direction of rotation in an outer region radially with regard to said rotation axis than in a radially inner region.
5. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 4, wherein said guide plate deposition surface comprises a shape similar to a circular sector or cake slice.
6. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein said guide plate comprises a leading take-up edge, the radially outer section of which is arranged trailing compared to its radially inner section in the direction of rotation.
7. (Currently amended) Mixer according to Claim 6, wherein said take-up edge runs substantially tangential to a ~~screw shaft containing~~ rotational axis.

8. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein said deposition surface runs at a downward pitch angle relative to said vertical rotational axis.
9. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein said guide plate deposition surface is flat and generally transverse to said vertical rotational axis.
10. Cancelled
11. (Currently amended) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein the guide plate is connected to the leading take up edge of said the flight of the mixing screw.
12. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein a trailing edge of the guide plate is arranged at a vertical distance above and a horizontal distance in front of the leading take-up edge of the flight of the mixing screw.
13. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein a trailing edge of the guide plate is arranged at a vertical distance (v) above the leading take-up edge of the mixing screw and is overlapping the leading take-up edge with a horizontal distance (h).
14. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 15, wherein the mixing screw comprises a flight with which the diameter of the lowermost winding compared to the diameter of the second lowermost winding narrows more than the diameter of the second lowermost winding compared to the diameter of the winding following the second lowermost winding.
15. (Currently amended) A feed mixer, comprising:
a mixing chamber having a bottom and a discharge opening in a vertically extending wall for the mix;

a mixing screw in the mixing chamber that is driven about a vertical rotational axis adjacent to the mixing chamber bottom, the mixing screw including at least one generally helical flight including a leading take up edge, said flight being dimensioned to have its greatest radius from the vertical rotational axis at the leading edge, and decrease upwardly; and

a rotary driven device adjacent said mixing chamber bottom for smoothing the discharge of the mix in the lower section of the mixing chamber that rotates past said discharge opening, said rotary driven device comprising at least two guide plates equally spaced around said vertical rotational axis to increase the action of the centrifugal force on the mix;

each said guide plate including a leading take-up edge in the direction of rotation, a trailing edge, and an upwardly facing deposition surface for the mix and having a radially outer boundary with a circumferential length and a distance to said rotational axis;

wherein the radial distance of the boundary of said deposition surface of each of said guide plates to the rotational axis is substantially equal along its circumferential length in the rotating direction, and is greater than the greatest radial distance of the flight to said vertical rotational axis.

16. (Currently amended) Mixer according to claim 11 wherein the trailing edge of one of said guide plates is fixedly attached to the leading take up edge of said flight.

17. (Currently amended) Mixer according to claim 15 wherein the trailing circumferential edge of each said guide plate has a downwardly extending wall mix deflecting area.

18. (Previously presented) Mixer according to claim 12 wherein each of said guide plates is tilted at a downward angle from the screw vertical rotational axis.

19. (Currently amended) Mixer according to claim 18 wherein the trailing circumferential edge of each said guide plate has an angled downwardly extending wall mix deflecting area.

20. (New) Mixer according to claim 15 wherein the trailing edge of one of the guide plates is fixedly attached to the leading take up edge of the flight.